

Genesee Corridor Business Association



Businesses Working Together for Genesee Street

89 Genesee Street – 1st Floor

Rochester, NY 14611

328-5750

July 5, 2005

Fashun Ku, Commissioner
Economic Development Department
30 Church Street
Rochester, NY 14614-1290

Dear Commissioner Ku,

I am writing to express my unequivocal support for the Brooks Landing project. I have reviewed the most recent "Environmental Assessment for the Conversion of a Portion of Genesee Valley Park" and found that all possible steps have been taken to mitigate any potential negative impact of this project.

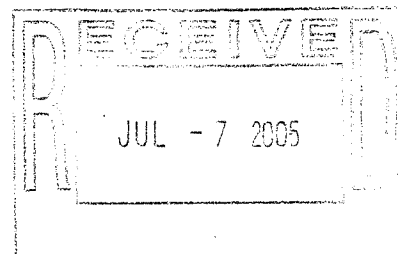
My reasons for supporting this project are many.

- It embodies the community's hope for badly needed economic revitalization in our trade area. It will bring over \$20 million in investment, over 200 jobs, increased local business opportunity and will attract other businesses to locate nearby.
- The sheer hope of this project's coming has lifted the aspirations of businesses along the adjoining six-block commercial area we call "Brooks Village". Owners have invested in older buildings, renewed storefronts, fixed-up store interiors. Vacant buildings have been demolished and replaced with new. New businesses have already been attracted to the area.
- The businesses, residents and other community stakeholders have had unprecedented input to the project design via 2 well-attended design Charettes, 2 large Visioning Workshops, and multiple public hearings. The current project design reflects difficult compromises reached by those most directly affected.
- The diversion of through traffic from South Plymouth Ave. to Genesee St. will improve the enjoyment of the adjacent portion of Genesee Valley Park north of Elmwood Ave. That, together with planned public riverfront improvements will attract added visitors to the proximity of Genesee businesses.
- The diversion of through traffic from South Plymouth Ave. to Genesee St. will increase needed traffic volume exposure for Genesee businesses.

For the benefit of Genesee businesses and our customers throughout the adjacent neighborhoods, please do everything in your power to speed the progress of the Brooks Landing project.

Sincerely,

John DeMott, Treasurer
Genesee Corridor Business Association



IN SUPPORT OF THE BROOKS LANDING REVITALIZATION PROJECT

June 23, 2005

Commissioner Fashun Ku
Department of Economic Development
City Hall Room 005-A
30 Church Street
Rochester NY 14614

Dear Commissioner Ku,

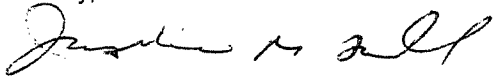
Please note my complete support of the Brooks Landing Revitalization Project.

As a stakeholder in the fate of the community, I have long looked forward to the realization of the Project - the key element in the restoration of the vitality, economic health and overall desirability of one of Rochester's oldest neighborhoods. I believe the Project will provide a welcome to the West Side that all of Rochester will want to be a part of. 14

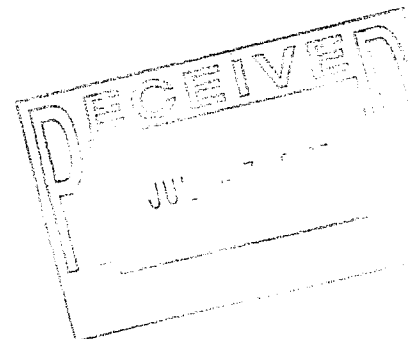
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The origins and support for the project are community driven and very well documented. Every step in the process over the last twenty-plus years has been taken with the energy and input of my neighbors and representatives. It is my sincere hope that all this effort will finally bear fruit. The overwhelming support for the project exists as testament to the need for success of this project. I now wish to formally add my voice. 7.6

Sincerely,



Name JACQUELINE M. FARRELL
Address 470 RUGBY AVENUE - 14619
e-mail _____



July 5, 2005

Commissioner Fashun Ku
Department of Economic Development
City Hall Room 005-A
30 Church Street
Rochester NY 14614

Dear Commissioner Ku,

Please note my complete support of the Brooks Landing Revitalization Project.

I have lived in the 19th ward since 1988 and have watched the area struggle to improve itself. The Brooks Landing project appears to be a key element in restoring economic growth and development to an extremely run down area. The improvements will make this entrance into the city much more welcoming.

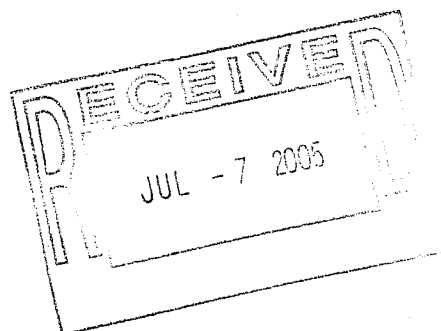
While change is difficult, I believe the street improvements will result in traffic flows that are satisfactory to the neighborhood. I hope that the addition of the hotel and other retail / service providers will result in safer, more frequent access to the riverfront. While it is sad that some trees may come down in the process of building the hotel, I believe that this project will help to stimulate significant improvements to the Genesee St / Brooks Avenue area.

While I have not personally been active on this project, I know that many people in the 19th Ward / Sector 4 have worked tirelessly on this project. They have my support and this project has my support.

Sincerely,

Deborah Wight

Deborah Wight
215 Melrose St
Rochester, NY 14619-1805



154

IN SUPPORT OF THE BROOKS LANDING REVITALIZATION PROJECT

June 23, 2005

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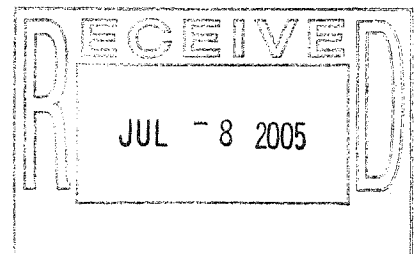
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Sincerely,

Signature Barbara Hoffman

Print Name Barbara Hoffman

Print Address 79 Arvine Heights
Rochester, NY 14611



ULREDC

URBAN LEAGUE OF ROCHESTER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

304 Andrews Street, Rochester, New York 14604 tel: 716 454-5711 fax: 716 454-2914

July 6, 2005

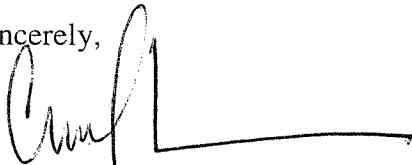
Fashun Ku, Commission
Department of Economic Development
City Hall
30 Church Street
Rochester, NY 14614

Dear Commissioner Ku:

I am writing, on behalf of the Urban League of Rochester Economic Development Corp., in support of the Brooks Landing Project. As you know, just last year we completed of our Brooks Village Apartments. This \$1.6 million dollar project, located on Genesee Street, created 20 new affordable rental units for small families. In part, our interest in locating in this section of Genesee Street was based on anticipation of the Brooks Landing development and the various amenities, which it will offer our residents and others.

We believe Brooks Landing, in its highly visible location, will further anchor the intersection and facilitate the revitalization of the neighborhood. We look forward to the start of this long awaited project.

Sincerely,

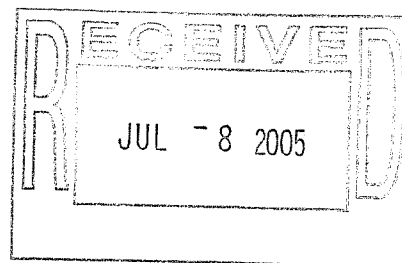


Carolyn Vitale, V. President/COO

Xc: William G. Clark, President/CEO Urban League of Rochester

John Borek, Executive Director Sector 4 CDC

Dana Miller, President/Sector 4 CDC



William G. Clark
President/Chief Executive Officer



Carolyn Vitale
Vice President/Chief Operating Officer

A wholly owned subsidiary of the Urban League of Rochester

156
Fashun Ku
Commissioner
Economic Development Department
City Hall
Rochester, New York 14614

July 6, 2005

Dear Mr. Ku:

I have lived on Spruce Ave for approximately 13 years. During that time there have been many discussions about a project @ Brooks and Genesee St. I am personally , as a property owner and a resident of Sector 4 , relieved to hear that the Brooks Landing Project is finally moving forward.

My neighbors are also excited about the completion of the project and it's positive impact on our neighborhood. The west side of the City has long been overlooked in respect to development plans. It is encouraging to know that there are individuals that see the value of making investment in my neighborhood.

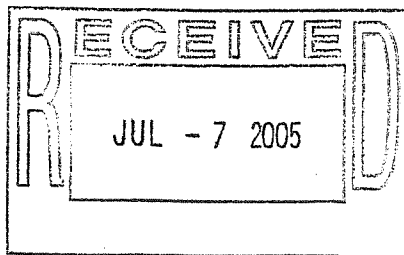
I have reviewed the environmental assessment for the project and I am comfortable with it's findings.

I hope that the Brooks Landing Project will trigger a renaissance of positive investment in my neighborhood. This development has been a long time coming ; I anxiously await it's arrival and the excitement I think it will bring to this area. I remain committed to the project and Sector 4.

Sincerely,

Delores J Banks

Delores J. Banks



177
7/5/2005

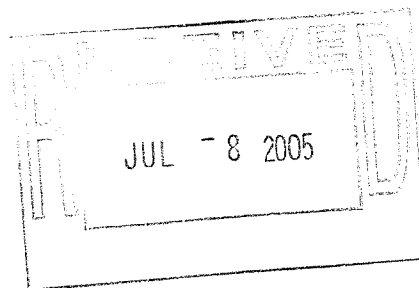
Koshun Kus

I am so excited about
Brooks Landing finally becoming
a reality.

The whole of The 14th Ward
is celebrating this first step
to a new Tomorrow ~

Thanks

Barbara Eblan



IN SUPPORT OF THE BROOKS LANDING REVITALIZATION PROJECT

June 23, 2005

Dear Commissioner Ku,

Please note my complete support of the Brooks Landing Revitalization Project.

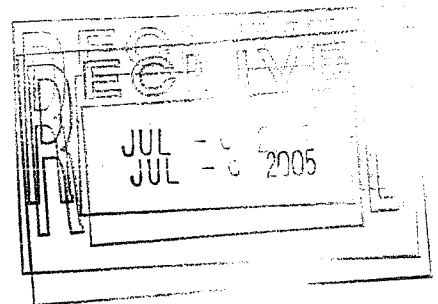
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Sincerely,

Signature Frances N. Johnson
 Print Name FRANCES N. JOHNSON
 Print Address 493 Frost Ave
ROCHESTER NY 14611



7,6
I
was
there

IN SUPPORT OF THE BROOKS LANDING REVITALIZATION PROJECT

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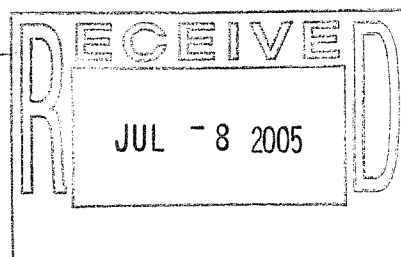
Sincerely,

Signature

Print Name

Print Address

Genevra P. H.
Genevra Piedmonte
103 Reservoir Ave
Rochester, NY 14620



160

IN SUPPORT OF THE BROOKS LANDING REVITALIZATION PROJECT

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Sincerely,

Signature

Patricia Jackson

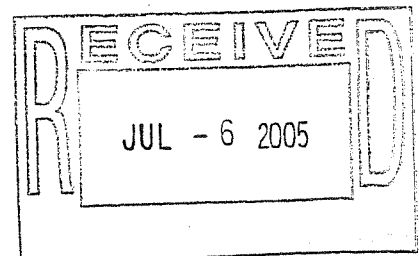
Print Name

Patricia Jackson

Print Address

774 Wegman Rd

Rochester, NY 14624



161

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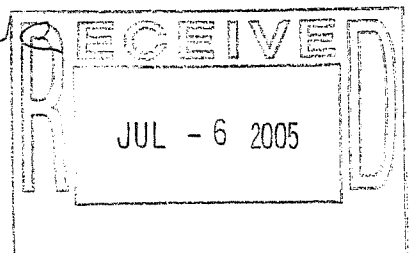
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Sincerely,

Signature Billy Griffin

Print Name Billy Griffin

Print Address 271 Kenwood Ave



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Sincerely,

Signature

Bobby Jackson

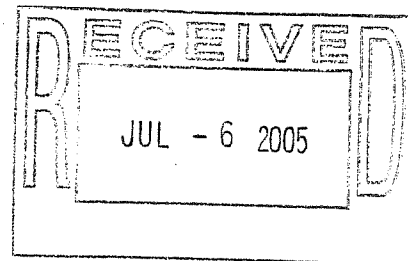
Print Name

Bobby Jackson

Print Address

530 Genesee ST

Roch NY 14611



163

IN SUPPORT OF THE BROOKS LANDING REVITALIZATION PROJECT

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Signature

Eric Davis

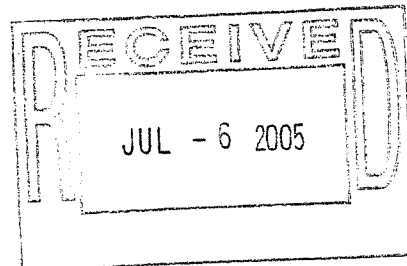
Print Name

Eric Davis

Print Address

835 Seward St

Roch. n.y. 14611



164

IN SUPPORT OF THE BROOKS LANDING REVITALIZATION PROJECT

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Signature

Edward Williams

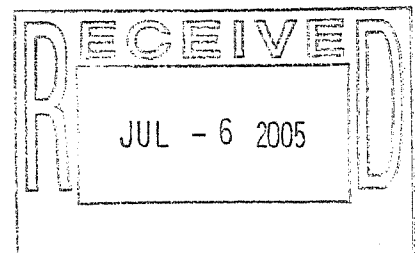
Print Name

EDWARD WILLIAMS

Print Address

147 Middlesex Rd

Rochester, New York



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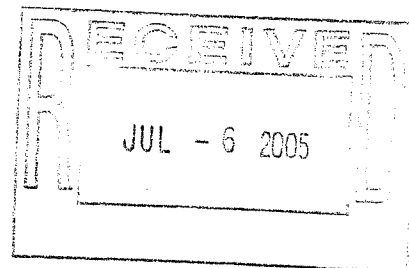
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Sincerely,

Signature Olier Kiner

Print Name Olier Kiner

Print Address 154 Clifton ST
Rochester, NY - 14617



166

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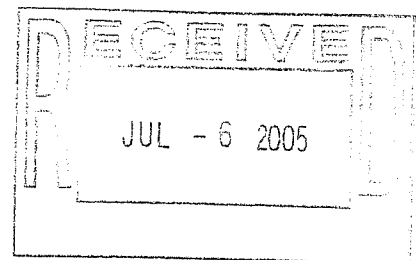
Sincerely,

Signature Gary L. Davis

Print Name GARY L. DAVIS

Print Address 581 Jefferson Ave.

Roch NY 14611



IN SUPPORT OF THE BROOKS LANDING REVITALIZATION PROJECT

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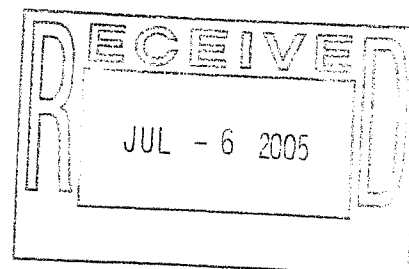
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Sincerely,

Signature Deangelo Lewis

Print Name DEANGELO LEWIS

Print Address 164 FULTON AVE



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Signature

Greg Sontons

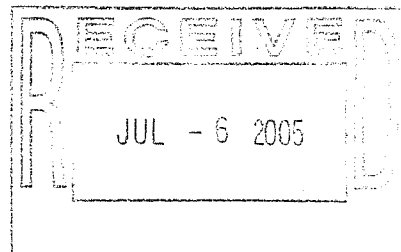
Print Name

Greg Sontons

Print Address

321 Lake Ave Apt 716

Rochester NY 14608



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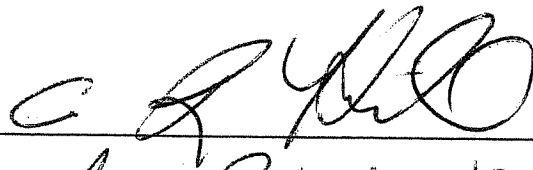
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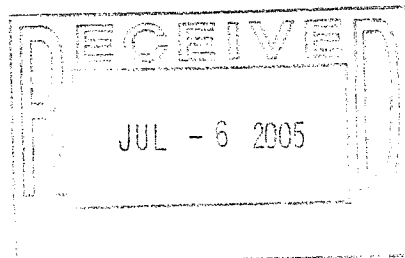
Print Name

Avis Roderick Hill

Print Address

560 Jefferson Ave

Rochester NY 14611



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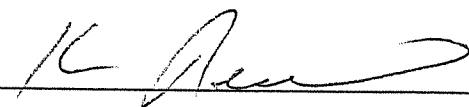
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Signature

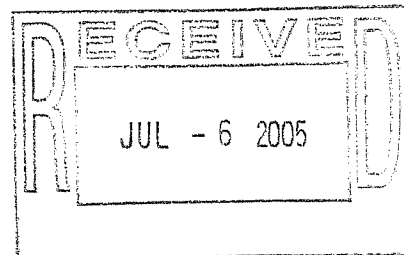


Print Name

Kea Register

Print Address

45 Annette Blvd.



171

IN SUPPORT OF THE BROOKS LANDING REVITALIZATION PROJECT

June 23, 2005

Dear Commissioner Ku,

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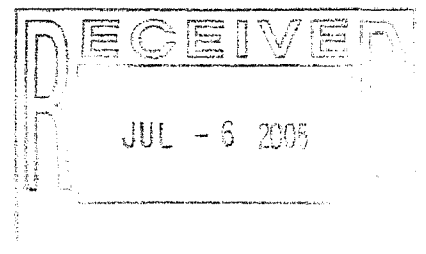
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Sincerely,

Signature Nashima D. King

Print Name NASHIMA D. KING

Print Address 275 DR. SAMUEL MCCREA WAY
(work - site)



IN SUPPORT OF THE BROOKS LANDING REVITALIZATION PROJECT

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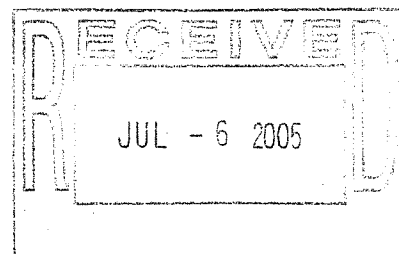
Sincerely,

Signature Kathy Sloan

Print Name Kathy Sloan

Print Address 379 Columbia Ave

Rochester NY 14611



173

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Sincerely,

Signature

Penny Butler

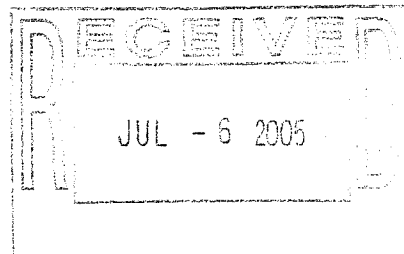
Print Name

Penny Butler

Print Address

56 Wilbur St.

Rochester, N.Y. 14611



174

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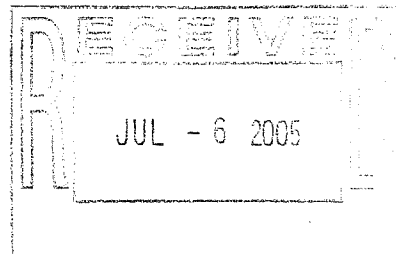


Print Name

Leonard Edmonds

Print Address

122 Illinois St. (Upper)



IN SUPPORT OF THE BROOKS LANDING REVITALIZATION PROJECT

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Sincerely,

Signature

Ronald L. Allen

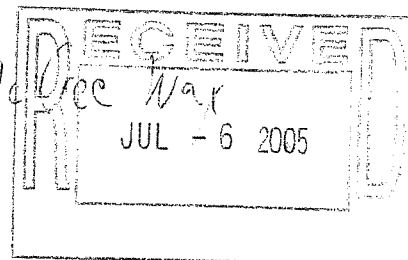
Print Name

Ron Allen

Print Address

SWAN 275 DR Samue / Mc

Roch NY 14611



176

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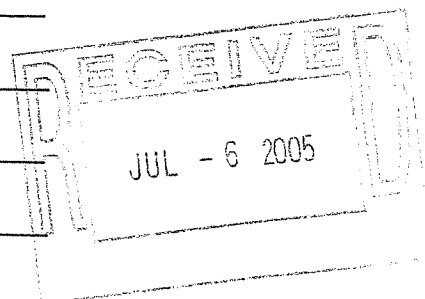
Sincerely,

Signature Carolyn White

Print Name Carolyn White

Print Address 40 Twin Beeches

Rochester, New York 14608



177

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June 23, 2005

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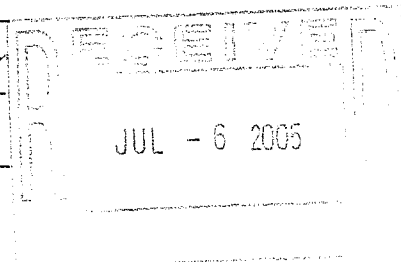
Robert D. Crawford

Print Name

Robert D. Crawford

Print Address

232 CONGRESS AVE. 14611



IN SUPPORT OF THE BROOKS LANDING REVITALIZATION PROJECT

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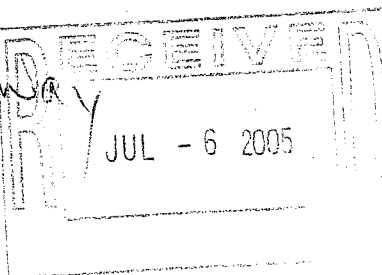
Sincerely,

Signature

Print Name

Print Address

Nina Edmond
275 Da Samen McGee Way
Rochester, NY 14611



179

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Signature

Sam Jacobs

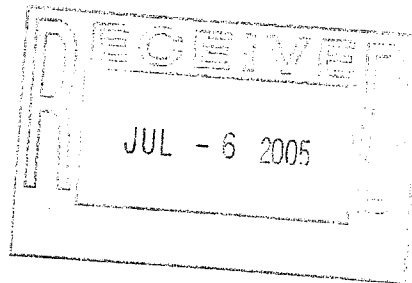
Print Name

SAM JACOBS

Print Address

75 COLGATE ST

ROCH - N.Y. 14619



180

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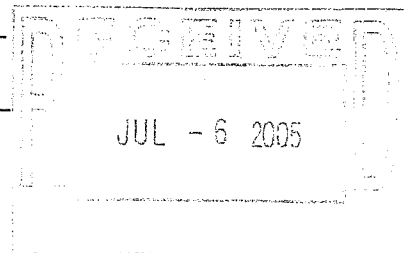
Derry J. Chiles

Print Name

Derry J. James Chiles

Print Address

40 Cutler St



IN SUPPORT OF THE BROOKS LANDING REVITALIZATION PROJECT

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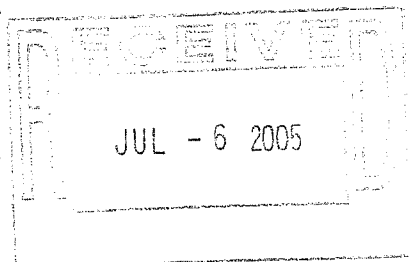
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Sincerely,

Signature Laurence E. Jackson Jr.

Print Name LAURENCE E. JACKSON JR.

Print Address 909 Jefferson Ave



IN SUPPORT OF THE BROOKS LANDING REVITALIZATION PROJECT

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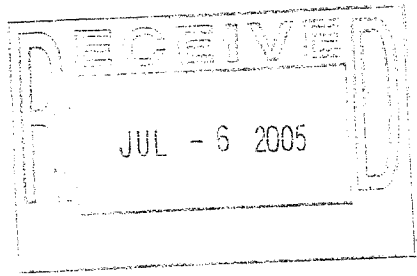
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Sincerely,

Signature Clarence Walker
Print Name CLARENCE WALKER
Print Address 230 HAWLEY ST.
ROCH. N.Y. 14608



182

IN SUPPORT OF THE BROOKS LANDING REVITALIZATION PROJECT

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Calvin Lee Jr

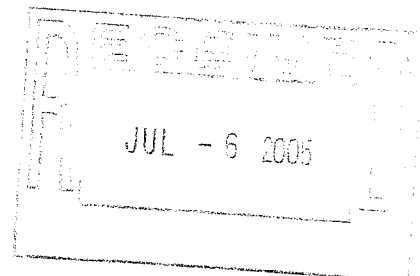
Print Name

CALVIN LEE JR

Print Address

19 SHELTER ST

ROCH. N.Y. 14611



184

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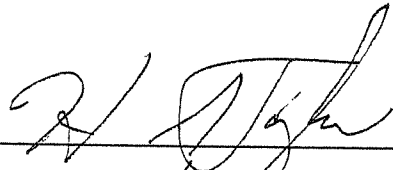
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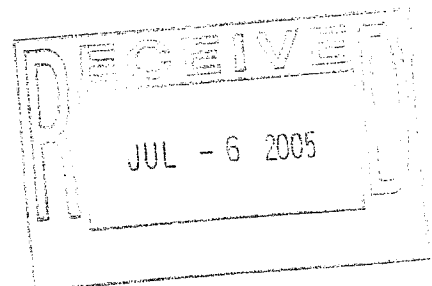


Print Name

Hosea Taylor Jr.

Print Address

447 Thurston Rd.



185

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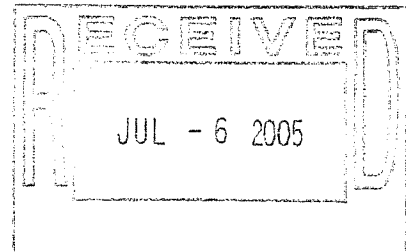
Sincerely,

Signature James Hampton Jr.

Print Name James Hampton Jr.

Print Address 363 Columbia Ave

Rochester New York 14611



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Horace Davis

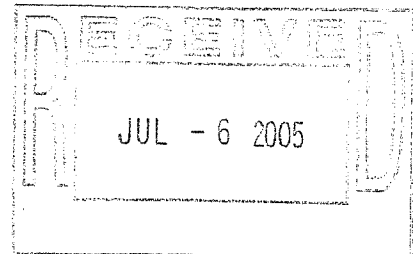
Print Name

Horace Davis

Print Address

287 Adams St.

Rochester, N.Y. 14608



187

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Signature

April L. McGill

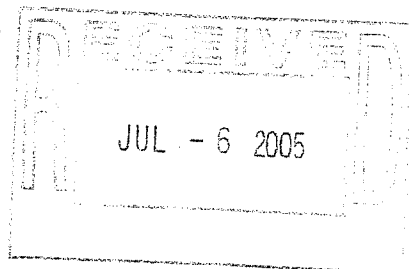
Print Name

April McGill

Print Address

71 Stratford Pk

Rochester NY 14611



188

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Maxine Hart

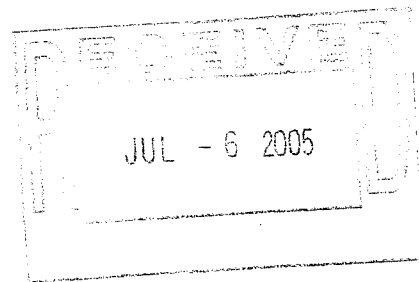
Print Name

MAXINE Hart

Print Address

44 Marlborough Rd

Rochester, NY 14619



189

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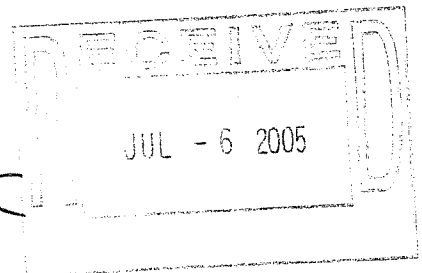
William M. Green

Print Name

William M. Green

Print Address

249 Warwick Ave
Rochester 14611 New York



190

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Signature

Stephanie C. Wright

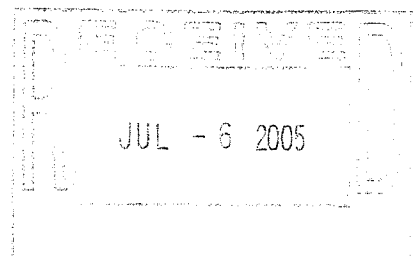
Print Name

Stephanie C. Wright

Print Address

447 Thurston Rd

Rochester, New York 14619



91

IN SUPPORT OF THE BROOKS LANDING REVITALIZATION PROJECT

June 23, 2005

Dear Commissioner Ku,

Please note my complete support of the Brooks Landing Revitalization Project.

As a stakeholder in the fate of the community, I have long looked forward to the realization of the Project - the key element in the restoration of the vitality, economic health and overall desirability of one of Rochester's oldest neighborhoods. I believe the Project will provide a welcome to the West Side that all of Rochester will want to be a part of.

Among many changes, street improvements to resolve traffic flow issues that are underway have not had a major impact on my daily travels. In fact, I look forward to enjoying increased personal access to the riverfront park land that the reconfiguration of Plymouth Avenue will provide. In addition, I'm excited about the plans for increased retail, recreational and entertainment use of the area.

The origins and support for the project are community driven and very well documented. Every step in the process over the last twenty-plus years has been taken with the energy and input of my neighbors and representatives. It is my sincere hope that all this effort will finally bear fruit. The overwhelming support for the project exists as testament to the need for success of this project. I now wish to formally add my voice.

Sincerely,

Signature

Joseph L Davis

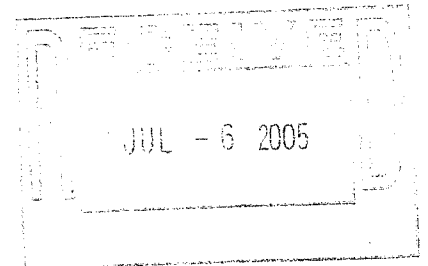
Print Name

Joseph L Davis

Print Address

55 Potter St

Rochester N.Y. 14606



192

IN SUPPORT OF THE BROOKS LANDING REVITALIZATION PROJECT

June 23, 2005

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Sincerely,

Signature

Joan Boss

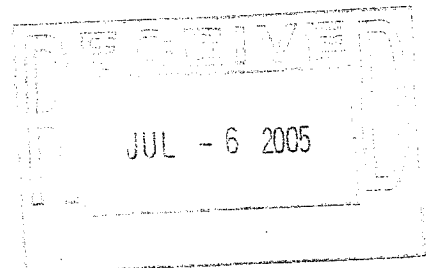
Print Name

Joan Boss

Print Address

154 Clifton St -

rear Apt



In Support of the Brooks Landing Revitalization Project

June 23, 2005

Commissioner Fashun Ku
Department of Economic Development
City Hall Room 005-A
30 Church Street
Rochester NY 14614

Dear Commissioner Ku,

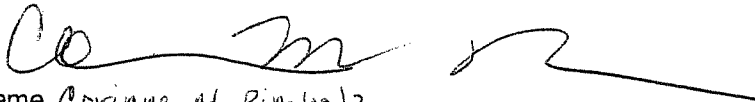
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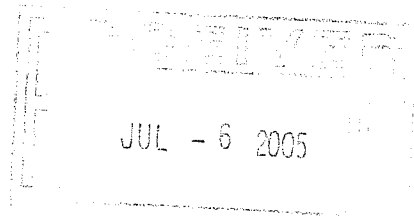
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Sincerely,



Name Corinne M. Ringholz
Address 148 Roxborough Rd, Rochester 14619
e-mail Corinne-Ringholz@urmc.rochester.edu



194

IN SUPPORT OF THE BROOKS LANDING REVITALIZATION PROJECT

June 23, 2005

Dear Commissioner Ku,

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Sincerely,

Signature

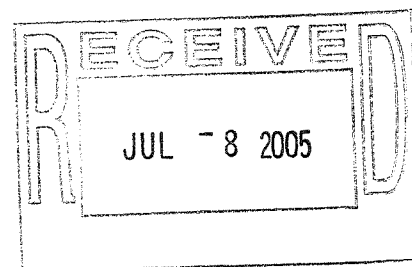
Stephanie Kelly

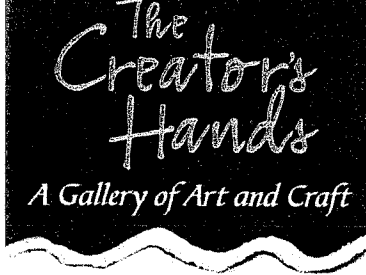
Print Name

STEPHANIE KELLY

Print Address

1040-1042 GENESEE STREET





195

July 5, 2005

Commissioner Fashun Ku
Department of Economic Development
City Hall Room 005-A
30 Church Street
Rochester, New York 14614

Greetings Fashun:

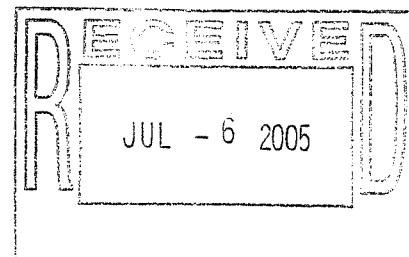
I am writing to add my voice in support of the long awaited and anticipated Brooks Landing Revitalization Project,

As you know, I have recently moved my business from the 19th Ward to High Falls. However, Jim and I continue to live in the 19th Ward (our home for 36 years) and have looked forward to the realization of this project for many years. In fact there was a point in time when I gave some consideration to the possibility of moving MY business THERE.

Jim and I look forward to the many positive aspects this exciting change will bring to our neighborhood and to the larger Rochester community.

Sincerely,

Carleen Wilenius



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July 4, 2005

Fashun Ku
Commissioner of Economic Development
City Hall Room 005-A
30 Church Street
Rochester, NY 14614

Dear Commissioner Ku:

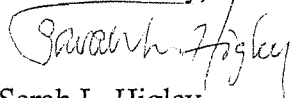
My name is Sarah Higley; I am an Associate Professor of English at the University of Rochester, and I and my husband have been residents and members of the Nineteenth Ward for eleven years. I am delighted to be living in such a vibrant, sensitive, and active community, and we moved here so that I could be close to my place of work.

I have come to understand that a single individual has expressed strong disapproval of the changes that are being made to facilitate the Brooks Landing Project. I have no idea why this person should so object to something that has been a dream for the community for the past twenty years among its residents of whatever color. Since I have lived here, the Brooks Landing Project has been in the works, and we are currently making much longed-for progress in street improvements, in building restorations, and in opportunities for an interaction with not only the UR but with people from neighboring communities who may make use of the new Landing. I have looked forward to this project since I came here, especially as I am a teacher and know that hundreds of our UR students live in the nineteenth ward and cross the footbridge daily.

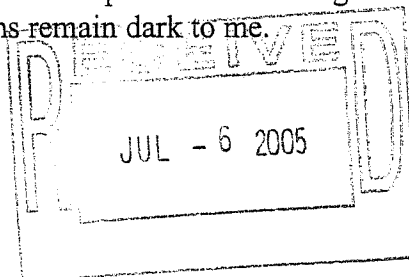
I want to assure the Department of Economic Development that these changes are for the good of our community for all who live and work here, and also for those who visit. The traffic will be vastly improved on Plymouth Avenue making it safer for both drivers and pedestrians. Most importantly, there is no loss of parkland whatsoever--an improvement and utilization of it, rather--wherein one will have more access to the Genesee River than present, and a reduction of roadway that enlarges the green areas around it. For years, visitors' "introduction" to our neighborhood has been the Plymouth/Brooks/Genesee Street intersections with their sagging, neglected buildings, advertising an economic apathy that has been disheartening. That is changing at last, and the native beauty of the area is finally being recognized and utilized.

I sincerely hope that you will listen to the sensible reasons why these improvements must go forward and not listen to a single, dissenting voice whose reasons remain dark to me.

Yours sincerely,

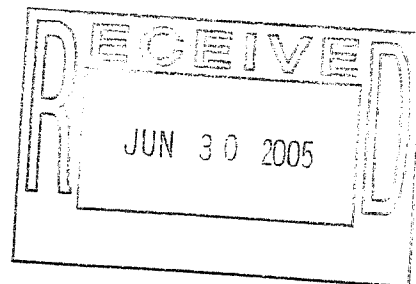


Sarah L. Higley
Associate Professor of English
404 Morey Hall
P.O. Box 270451
Rochester, New York 14627-0451
(585) 275-4092 Fax: (585) 442-5769



197
10f2

IN SUPPORT OF THE BROOKS LANDING REVITALIZATION PROJECT



June 23, 2005

Dear Commissioner Ku,

Please note my complete support of the Brooks Landing Revitalization Project.

As a stakeholder in the fate of the community, I have long looked forward to the realization of the Project - the key element in the restoration of the vitality, economic health and overall desirability of one of Rochester's oldest neighborhoods. I believe the Project will provide a welcome to the West Side that all of Rochester will want to be a part of.

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Sincerely,

Signature Martina A. Verna

Print Name MARTINA A. VERNA

Print Address 135 TERRACE PARK

ROCH NY 14619

P.S. I would like to comment: The parking issue on Genesee St. between Brooks and Congress needs desperately to be addressed. Trying to pull out into traffic is becoming increasingly dangerous (OVER)

197
2022

due to people parking illegally at the corners,
double parking at the street ends - etc.

Many times I fear when I drive down my street
what would happen if an emergency vehicle
tried to get through here. Please don't say
call the NET office because that results
in a lot of talk and no action.

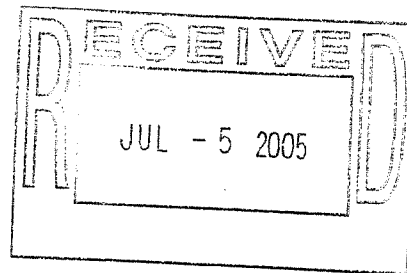
Cars should be ticketed and parking should
be enforced! especially on Genesee St.

Thank you for reading my only complaint about
the project.

198
10f2

Dr. Fred Hagen, Ph.D fred_hagen@urmc.rochester.edu
57 Trafalgar Street, Rochester, NY 14619
235-3031 home 576-4981 cell 275-0336 work

Mr. Fashun Ku, Commissioner
Economic Development Department
City Hall, Room 005A
30 Church Street
Rochester, NY 14614-1290



RE: Public Comment on revitalization of Brooks Landing area

Dear Mr. Ku,

Monday, July 4, 2005

Summary: I am in **STRONG SUPPORT** of the Brooks Landing Revitalization Project and the Conversion of Genesee Valley Park Parcel at Brooks Landing

Overview of my experience at the Brooks Landing area:

I provide an important viewpoint, because I walk or bicycle through the proposed parcel almost everyday of the year on my route to and from work. I am a faculty member at the Medical School at the University of Rochester and have lived in the 19th Ward for 15 years. My travels including winter bicycling, as I have studded tires for snow and ice conditions. In addition, I also run with a 19th Ward group two to four times a week. Each of our runs use the sidewalks, pedestrian bridge and river trail in the Brooks Landing area. The river and park is a beautiful space, and neighbors would benefit from the parcel conversion described in the Brooks Landing Revitalization Project.

History of Brook's Landing revitalization effort:

Public participation has been exceptionally good.

This revitalization effort has intensified in the last few years with a great deal of input from residents in the neighborhood and business owners in the Brooks/Genesee area, as well as the University of Rochester.

Numerous meetings related to the development of Brooks Landing have been extensively advertised in the neighborhood and held at St. Monica church, which is in close proximity to the project. Neighbors have attended design and concept meetings to further the development. I have attended many of these meetings and community announcements, related to progressive stages of the Brooks Landing project. The 19th Ward Community Association and Sector 4 deserve high accolades for their efforts to include local residents, neighbors and businesses in the process of developing Brooks Landing.

Impact on the Genesee Valley Park will be a substantial improvement.

Genesee Valley Park (GVP) has had Plymouth Avenue run straight through northern section of the park, between Brooks Avenue and Elmwood Avenue, along the west side of the Genesee River. This section of Plymouth Avenue routinely delivers a great deal of high-speed commuter traffic (often exceeding 40 mph), through the park section. As such, this section of the GVP has not been pleasant. The sound of high-speed traffic permeates the park and even reaches the east bank of the Genesee River.

In recent weeks, however, the construction at the corner of Brooks and Plymouth has dramatically decreased the flow of traffic through Genesee Valley Park. This has improved the park atmosphere on

198
2 of 2

the west bank of the Genesee River and reduced the volume of noise from high-speed automobile traffic,

I now enjoy walking, bicycling and jogging along the river bike paths, through GVP. A quieter park with less automobile traffic should be a major goal for the parkland. Re-routing traffic from Plymouth Avenue to Genesee Street, diverts automobiles away from the park area and makes GVP more friendly to pedestrian traffic. This improved atmosphere in GVP alone justifies the proposal for "conversion of parkland."

3

Expectations of the proposed Conversion Parcel:

A restaurant and hotel on the Genesee River waterfront will improve the park atmosphere. Prior to this project, this section of the park functioned as a high-speed thoroughfare. With a hotel, restaurant and business, there will be a strong motivation for increased pedestrian use of the park. Neighbors will walk to the park, experience a meal at the waterfront, and take in a digestion walk or visit shops. This will become a substantial boost to the neighborhood and GVP and the University of Rochester community.

6,23

Traffic concerns:

There has been some concern that traffic on the south end of Genesee Street will increase as a result of closing the south end of Plymouth. Much of the traffic is commuter traffic from outside the neighborhood. Most of these drivers speed down Plymouth without any intention of stopping in the neighborhood and supporting neighborhood businesses. In my estimation, the city should not promote high-speed short-cuts through neighborhoods. Instead, the city should spawn and promote development of city neighborhood businesses (hotel, restaurant, convention center) and its natural resources (waterfront and parkland) and through this action attract outside drivers to stop in the neighborhood and promote and support local businesses. The neighborhood needs to be an end-point for drivers and pedestrians and not a thoroughfare. The Brooks/Genesee area already has a history of hosting small businesses and shops (shoe store, jamaican restaurant, fish market, etc.). Some of these businesses have reputations that attract visitors from outside the neighborhood; however, the poor appearance of the buildings and streets and the lack of organized development from past years detract from their ability to succeed.

1,6

The changes proposed in the Brooks Landing Revitalization can improve a neighborhood and park, which may otherwise deteriorate.

This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to make a substantial improvement to the neighborhood, while at the same time enhancing the park and waterfront. The city and the community have produced a thoughtful proposal to develop parkland and city streets that was previously in a poor state. This is a win-win situation for parks and the city. I strongly favor this proposal to convert a parcel of GVP to the Brooks Landing Project.

7

If I can provide further input or answer any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely yours,

Fred Hagen
Fred Hagen

199
1042

IN SUPPORT OF THE BROOKS LANDING REVITALIZATION PROJECT

June 23, 2005

Dear Commissioner Ku,

Please note my complete support of the Brooks Landing Revitalization Project.

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Sincerely,

Signature

Jacqueline Leving

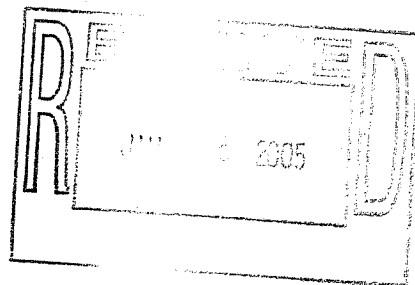
Print Name

JACQUELINE LEVING

Print Address

296 MELROSE STREET

14619



When I moved to the 19th Ward in 1983, the project was under discussion. WHY have the people of this neighborhood had to wait for this project? When I lived →

24

on and near Monroe Avenue in 14607 from 1973-83,
it was the retail development & improvements to the
streets that made the Park/Monroe neighborhood what
it is today. With Brooks Landing, we can be more
than we are today. The Nineteenth Ward, the University,
the Plymouth/Exchange neighborhood - all of us will
benefit. And so will the City of Rochester.

It's time for Brooks Landing to happen!

Sincerely,

Jacqui Levine

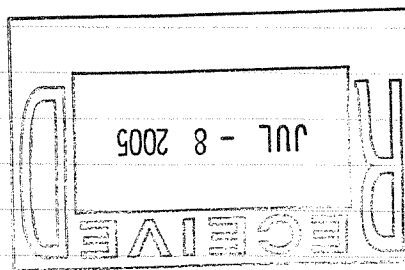
500 Brooks Ave.
Roch., NY 14619
July 8, 2005



Dear Mr. Kee,

Thank you for your interest in the Brooks Landing project. My family of four would like to assert that we are very much in favor of development of the Brook/Plymouth Ave. intersection. We think it will have a very positive impact on this neighborhood.

Sincerely,
Charlotte Picard



This stamp is a reproduction of the original stamp used by the City of Rochester, New York, in the year 2005. It is not a legal document and should not be used for legal purposes.

July 8, 2005

Fashun Ku
Commissioner of Economic Development
30 Church Street
City Hall

Commissioner Ku:

We are writing to support the Brooks Landing Project that is being developed for Sector 4 in collaboration with Sector 4 Community Development Corporation and the community.

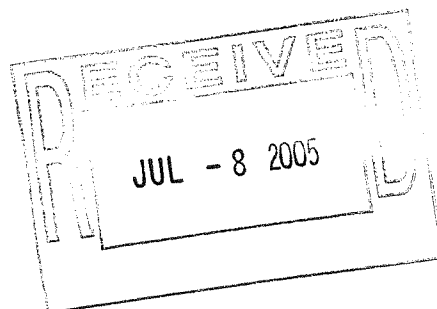
As you know, the community has worked on this project for the past 20 years and it is our expectation that we will receive the desired support from the city, state and federal government to bring this project to fruition.

We understand that a few neighborhood residents are under the impression that the University of Rochester has inserted itself into this project. Nothing could be further from the truth! We have spent countless hours in meetings with the University over the past 5 to 7 years, on the request of the 5 neighborhoods that make up Sector 4. These meetings have resulted in a commitment on the part of the University to be a part of this exciting project. It was the community that asked for the University to not only support the project, but to be a tenant in the office building that is a part of Brooks Landing.

The University complied with this request and continue to support this project with full community input.

Please let this letter serves as a reminder of the countless community meetings, charrettes, and neighborhood input that went in to this project!

Sincerely,
Charles and Josanne Reaves
750 Thurston Road
Rochester, NY



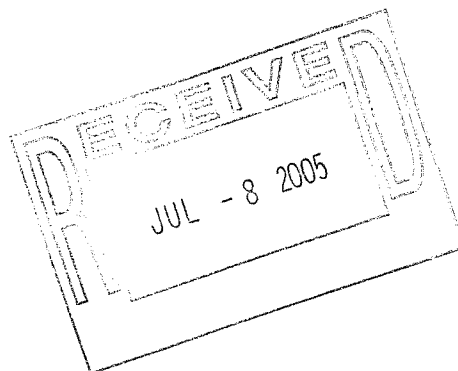
July 8, 2005

Fashun Ku,

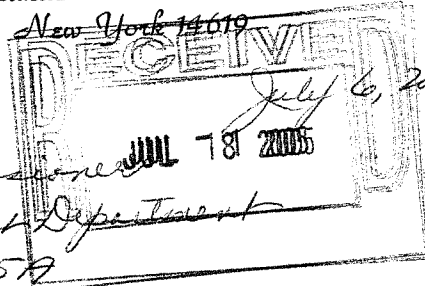
As a 19th ward resident I am very interested and strongly support the Brooks Landing Project. Please make it happen.

Thank you.

Thomas A. Crews
(email)



Ruth I. Dawson
122 Flanders Street
Rochester, New York 14619



Jasper Kue, Commissioner
Economic Development Department
City Hall, Room 005A
30 Church Street
Rochester, New York 14614-1290

Re: Genesee Valley Park - Brooks Landing

Dear Mr. Kue:

As a 24-year resident of the 19th Ward and longtime 19th Ward Community Association member, I am very interested in the Brooks Landing project. I know the Brooks/Genesee/Plymouth area well, travelling it daily. Subsections 2 and 3 of the Brooks Landing plan appear to be positive endeavors which will enhance the 19th Ward and benefit its residents. Subsection 1, however, is another matter. I have examined the Subsection 1 proposal carefully and am convinced

-2-

it is a poorly conceived plan that will be destructive to the 19th Ward, and should be dropped.

Let me share some of my concerns:

1. Traffic - With through travel not permitted on Plymouth Avenue (except circuitously through the hotel parking area), Seneca Street will have to carry many more vehicles. Seneca Street has many driveways, side streets, and bus stops and will not be able to carry such a heavy flow of traffic safely and efficiently.

2. Loss of parkland - Park land is precious, especially to city dwellers. In this instance, in addition to actual land loss, there is loss of river views, mature trees, a greenway trail and wildlife habitat. The notion of somehow atoning for that with land in Turning Point Park, miles away, is, frankly, absurd.

- 3 -

3. Decreased property value and loss of park access - This is particularly pertinent to the houses on Seneca Street between Brooks Avenue and Grandview. Rather than having park land in their backyards they will have a barrier wall, a dumpster and a large building.

4. Pollution - The proposed hotel and restaurant will create odor, noise, light and air pollution from garbage, light poles, cars and trucks.

5. Hotel and Restaurant Benefit Whom? - The proposed extended-stay hotel will be beyond the financial means of 19th Ward residents. If the University of Rochester needs such a facility, perhaps it should convert the Town House back to its original function. The proposed restaurant as well is too large and too expensive to appeal to

4-
19th Ward pocketbooks. Why not
build a more modest, affordable
restaurant where the former NET
office stands? That could be done
without turning Pennine Valley Park,

Thank you for your
consideration of my concerns.

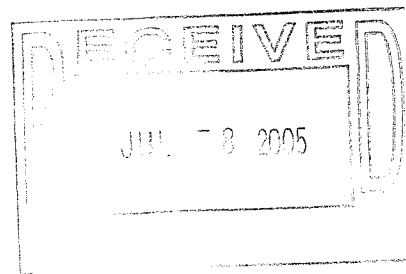
Very truly yours,

Ruth L. Dawson

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1 of 2

Rochester NY 14611

June 6, 2005



Fashun Ku, Commissioner
Economic Development Department
City Hall, Room 005A
30 Church Street
Rochester, NY 14614-1290

Dear Fashun Ku

I am writing to place on record certain observations about the *Environmental Assessment for the Conversion of a Portion of Genesee Valley Park under the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act as a Result of the Brooks Revitalization Project*. I wish my name and/or address to be withheld from public view.

Point 1. *Concept vs. Design*

I wish to say that I am in favor of capital investment in the 19th Ward. However, I believe the current design is inappropriate for the 19th Ward in scale, character and environmental impact.

Point 2. *Timing of Environmental Assessment*

I wish also to put on record my concern that this request for input has been made after construction (by this I mean the alterations to the traffic flow) has commenced. As such the Environmental Assessment process is intrinsically flawed as any comments are addressing a fait accompli.

1

Point 3. *Historical and Cultural Integrity*

Perhaps the most significant issue is the fact that Frederick Law Olmstead designed Plymouth Avenue as a scenic drive for all the people of Rochester to enjoy. Plymouth Avenue directs the public along the riverfront into Genesee Valley Park. The road and the park are intrinsically connected. To truncate this entrance/drive, and permit private development on this historic and scenic site is something that I cannot imagine an otherwise sensitive city government can tolerate. Not only is the site public parkland, but also it is designed by one of the greatest and most influential landscape designers in the United States. It is to my mind inconceivable that this historic, cultural and scenic resource is to be truncated, taken from the public, and handed over to the few privileged customers of the proposed hotel.

3,
12

Point 4. *Integrity of the Neighborhood*

The traffic re-routing that flows from this development dumps traffic that was once shared by two roads (Elmwood and Plymouth) into one. This traffic is then re-routed through the center of the 19th Ward. This breaks all existing tenets of town planning and will bisect the neighborhood in a way that will be difficult, if not impossible to undo. It is similar in scale and negative impact to the inner loop — a development that has significantly contributed to the demise of downtown Rochester. The Brooks Landing development as currently proposed will have a similar impact on the amenity of life in the 19th Ward.

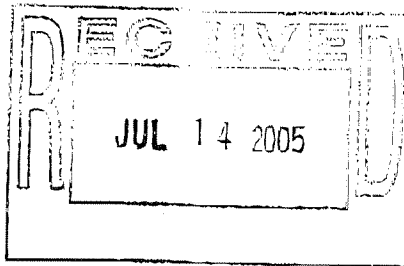
2

Conclusion.

The development is oriented to the riverfront, not the 19th Ward. The traffic pattern, parking, and height of the building will create an enclave divorced from the neighborhood. It will perpetuate economic injustice, not solve it.

Yours sincerely

July 7, 2005



205

Leslie Meyers
1022 Genesee St.
Rochester, NY 14611

Fashun Ku, commissioner
Economic Development Department
City Hall Room 005A
30 Church St.
Rochester, NY 14614-1290

Fashun Ku, commissioner,

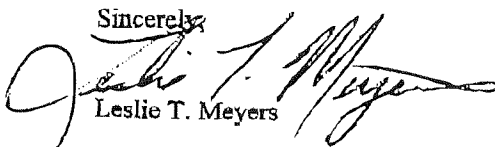
This letter is in response to the Brooks Landing project, particularly sub-area I. I am a resident of the Brooks/Genesee neighborhood, and would be directly affected by the proposed improvements. Although I agree that this area is in a state of aesthetic decline, I cannot agree with the proposed action in sub-area I. The proposed hotel would be placed on the one place in the neighborhood that is still a benefit to the community. My property is adjacent to the proposed hotel site. Daily, I witness area residents utilizing the parkland directly behind my house. Residents of the Brooks Avenue area walk their dogs, enjoy walks and play with their children in the park area that is proposed to be replaced with a hotel. There are plenty of places in extreme disrepair that could be replaced (and would benefit from being replaced) with a new hotel. However, there are not very many beautiful places for the residents of the Southwest side of the city to enjoy.

A second concern of mine is the apparent lack of consideration that has been given to the current residents of the area. While looking at the CD-ROM of the environmental assessment, I noticed that there are several options as far as the positioning of the hotel. It seems that the other options, which were not even mentioned to residents at the informative meetings, may be better for the residential community, as far as maintaining the natural beauty behind our homes. In particular, alternative option layout 3 (located in volume I, figure 8) would provide the least amount of disruption to the residents of Genesee St. and Grand View Terrace. The first option, which seems to be preferred by the city, fails to take into account the needs of the current residents. I noticed the proposed location of the hotel dumpster, and cannot help but wonder why it will be placed directly behind a private residence. Is there some reason that the hotel residents deserve more consideration than the residents of Genesee St.? In addition, the restaurant that has been proposed will add to the unpleasant odor in the area. The homeowners in this area, many who have been residents for generations, deserve the best you have to offer as far as preserving the value of their homes, as well as the aesthetic beauty of their neighborhood. I believe that the hotel's garbage facilities could be relocated to better accommodate the needs of the Genesee St. residents. I am sure that the economic development department is giving this matter much consideration, and a better proposal will be reached in time.

Finally, and perhaps most importantly, the area of Plymouth Avenue that will be closed to accommodate this hotel, will have a tremendous detrimental impact on the Genesee St. residents. It is already incredibly difficult to get in and out of the driveways in that block of Genesee St. The parking situation on the street provides for very poor view of the top of the hill, which poses a danger to homeowners leaving and returning to their homes. The increased traffic that would result from the closing of Plymouth Avenue would serve to increase the danger to us. If the city proceeds with the closing of Plymouth Avenue, the parking situation on Genesee St. would have to be addressed for the safety of city residents.

I look forward to hearing about the plans that the Department of Economic Development is working on to accommodate the needs of the current residents of the Brooks Landing neighborhood. I am confident that our needs are of the utmost importance to the department. Thank you in advance for ensuring that our houses continue to be a place we can be proud to call home.

Sincerely,


Leslie T. Meyers

206

IN SUPPORT OF THE BROOKS LANDING REVITALIZATION PROJECT

June 23, 2005

Dear Commissioner Ku,

Please note my complete support of the Brooks Landing Revitalization Project.

As a stakeholder in the fate of the community, I have long looked forward to the realization of the Project - the key element in the restoration of the vitality, economic health and overall desirability of one of Rochester's oldest neighborhoods. I believe the Project will provide a welcome to the West Side that all of Rochester will want to be a part of.

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The origins and support for the project are community driven and very well documented. Every step in the process over the last twenty-plus years has been taken with the energy and input of my neighbors and representatives. It is my sincere hope that all this effort will finally bear fruit. The overwhelming support for the project exists as testament to the need for success of this project. I now wish to formally add my voice.

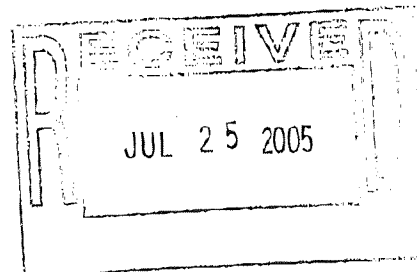
Sincerely,

Signature

Print Name

Print Address

ROCHESTER NY 14627



207

IN SUPPORT OF THE BROOKS LANDING REVITALIZATION PROJECT

July 2, 2005

Commissioner Fashun Ku
Department of Economic Development
City Hall Room 005-A
30 Church Street
Rochester NY 14614

Dear Commissioner Ku,

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Sincerely,

Name Sally Miller

Address 1000 East Ave. # 107 14607

e-mail _____

*I am an X 19th warder (only in body) my spirit and
dose loving girlfriend are still there -
I would still be there except for weird circumstances -
Whatever the problem is - please take care of it -*

Sincerely -

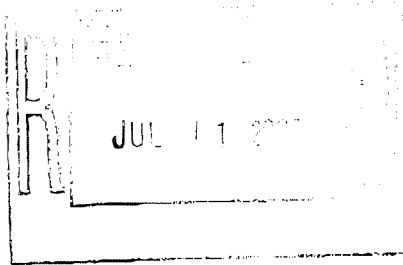
Sally Miller

208

IN SUPPORT OF THE BROOKS LANDING REVITALIZATION PROJECT

July 2, 2005

Commissioner Fashun Ku
Department of Economic Development
City Hall Room 005-A
30 Church Street
Rochester NY 14614



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Sincerely,

Name Dana Davidson
Address 155 Corwin Rd
e-mail 14610

- former resident of 19th Ward
- continue to drive in the area
- want to see this project completed.

209

IN SUPPORT OF THE BROOKS LANDING REVITALIZATION PROJECT

June 23, 2005

Dear Commissioner Ku,

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Sincerely,



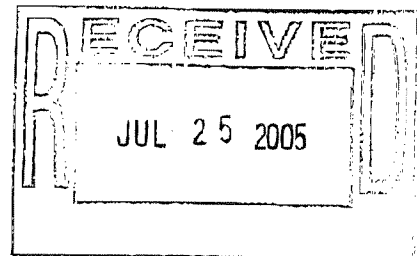
Signature _____

Print Name _____

Samuel Madoff

Print Address _____

21 Arvine Heights
Rochester, NY 14611



P.S. I wholeheartedly support this project - the changes evident already are very impressive!

210

IN SUPPORT OF THE BROOKS LANDING REVITALIZATION PROJECT

June 23, 2005

Dear Commissioner Ku,

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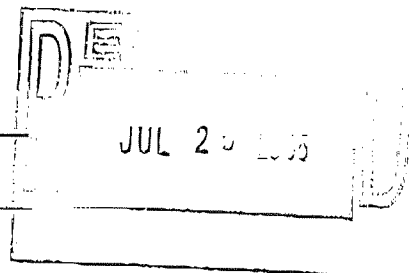
Sincerely,

Signature Lillie Leckinger

Print Name Lillie Leckinger

Print Address 69 Arvine Heights

Rochester, NY 14611-4113



*Sory this is late, but wanted you to know I'm strongly in favor.
Came to Rochester in 1945. Boarded with the Lewis family 2 years.
We bought our house in 1948. I like the 19th Ward & the drug store family.
Have wonderful neighbors.*

211

IN SUPPORT OF THE BROOKS LANDING REVITALIZATION PROJECT

June 23, 2005

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Sincerely,

Signature

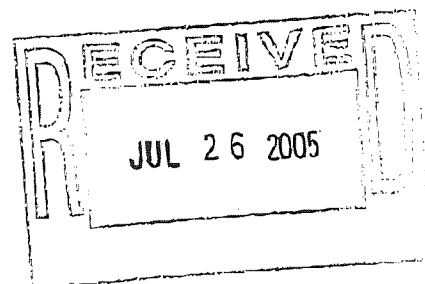


Print Name

Print Address



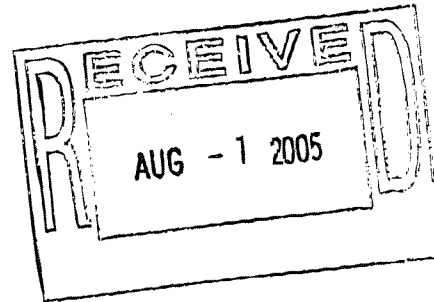
C & C AUTOMOTIVE
230 SCOTTSVILLE RD.
ROCHESTER, NY 14611
PH 585-328-8114



212

IN SUPPORT OF THE BROOKS LANDING REVITALIZATION PROJECT

June 23, 2005



Dear Commissioner Ku,

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Sincerely,

Signature Colleen D. Thomas

Print Name Colleen D. Thomas

Print Address 425 Magnolia St.
Roch, NY 14611

213

IN SUPPORT OF THE BROOKS LANDING REVITALIZATION PROJECT

June 23, 2005

Dear Commissioner Ku,

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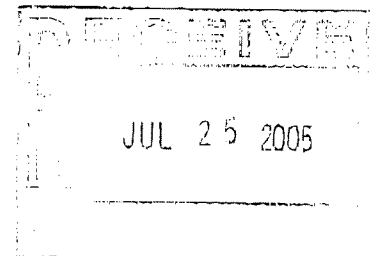
Sincerely,

Signature Den Defibaugh

Print Name Denis Defibaugh

Print Address 30 Winbourne Rd

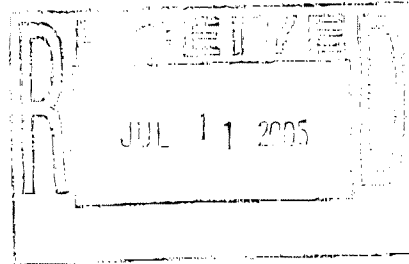
Rochester, NY 14611



214

IN SUPPORT OF THE BROOKS LANDING REVITALIZATION PROJECT

June 23, 2005



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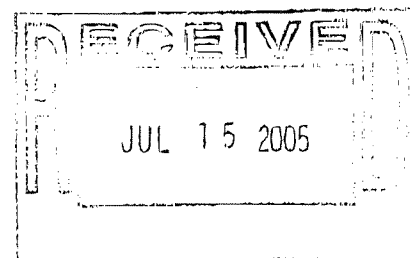
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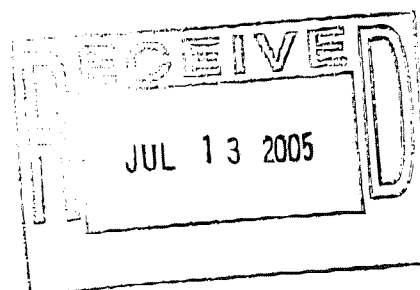
Signature Carolyn M. Argust

Print Name Carolyn M. Argust

Print Address 37 Geslight Lane
Roch, NY 14610



215



July 8, 2005

Commissioner Fashun Ku
Department of Economic Development
City Hall Room 005-A
30 Church Street
Rochester, NY 14614

Dear Commissioner Ku:

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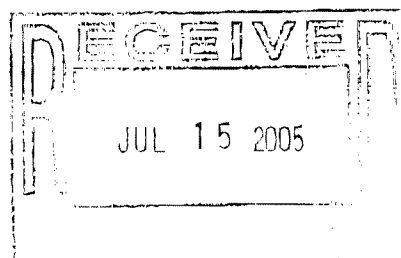
The St. Mary's Campus of Unity Health System is an important anchor at one end of Genesee Street. Having this tremendous project at the other end of Genesee Street will, we believe, bring major improvements to Southwest Rochester.

The origins and support for the project are community driven and very well documented. Every step in the process over the last twenty-plus years has been taken with the energy and input of local neighbors and representatives. It is my sincere hope that all this effort will finally bear fruit. The overwhelming support for the project exists as testament to the need for success of this project.

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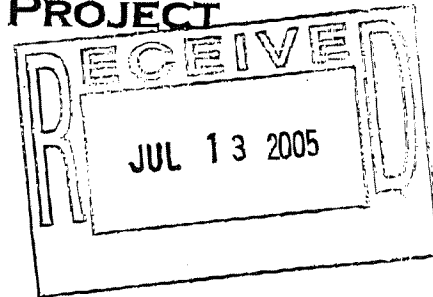
Stewart C. Putnam
Executive Vice President

SCP/smh



216

IN SUPPORT OF THE BROOKS LANDING REVITALIZATION PROJECT



June 23, 2005

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Sincerely,

Signature

Raymond H. Fleming

Print Name

(Rev.) Raymond H. Fleming

Print Address

34 Monica St.

Rochester, NY 14619

I am sorry this is late - I've been out of town.

217

IN SUPPORT OF THE BROOKS LANDING REVITALIZATION PROJECT

June 23, 2005

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Sincerely,

Signature

Theresa White

Print Name

THERESA White

Print Address

65 WELLINGTON AVE

ROCHESTER, NY 14611

JUL 25 2005

Debra Darrow

DEBRA DARROW

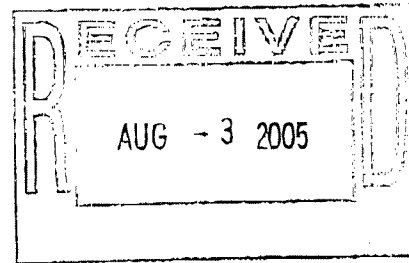
65 WELLINGTON AVE

ROCHESTER NY

14611

218

IN SUPPORT OF THE BROOKS LANDING REVITALIZATION PROJECT



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Sincerely,

Signature

Galvin Lee Jr

Print Name

GALVIN LEE JR

Print Address

19 SHELTER STREET

ROCHESTER, NEW YORK 14611

219

Ayanna G. Hofmann
25 Evangeline Street
Rochester, New York 14619
(585) 328 . 5895

29 July 2005

Mr. Daniel Kane, Director
Resource Management
New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation
Agency Building 1
Empire State Plaza
Albany, New York 12238

RE: Genesee Valley Park, Rochester, New York - Brooks Landing

Dear Mr. Kane,

I am enclosing a copy of my response to the Brooks Landing Environmental Assessment. Since my submission of this document I have come upon critically important documents that prove irrefutably and conclusively that the 19.5 acres of land in the Charlotte section of the City of Rochester, proposed by the City of Rochester's administration as legitimate replacement land for the Brooks Landing Sub Area I NPS 6(f) park land, has been, and continues to be, promoted as public parkland by the City of Rochester as well as other public organizations, and, therefore, is not a legitimate "replacement parcel."

In the EA, Page ES-2, Replacement Parcel paragraph the City of Rochester asserts that "There is currently no legal access onto the replacement parcel and consequently it is neither serving nor managed as public parkland." Please find enclosed a photocopy of a brochure published and distributed by the Department of Recreation and Community Services, Bureau of Parks, City of Rochester, that has a Turning Point Park Map that clearly shows the inclusion of the 19.5 acre "Replacement Parcel" within the perimeter of Turning Point Park. As stated in the National Park Service, Land and Water Conservation Fund Section 59.3 Conversion requirements:

59.3(b)(4)(i) states:

"The property proposed for substitution meets the eligibility requirements for L&WCF assisted acquisition. The replacement property must constitute or be part of a viable recreation area. Unless each of the following additional conditions is met, land currently in public ownership, including that which is owned by another public agency, may not be used as replacement land for land acquired as part of an L&WCF project:

- (i) The land was not acquired by the sponsor or selling agency for recreation.
- (ii) The land has not been dedicated or managed for recreational purposes while in public ownership."

All of the documentation attached to this letter proves that the proposed 19.5 acre parcel does not fulfill the requirements and thus can not be used as a replacement for the NPS 6(f) park land in Genesee Valley Park.

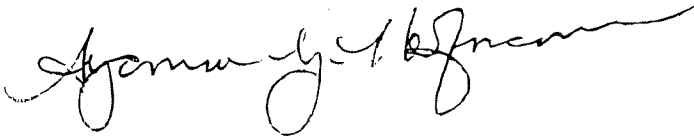
Furthermore, in 1999 (as part of DOT Lake Avenue Project Number 4752.49), the City of Rochester planned the Genesee River Trail Extension from Boxart Street north through the "replacement parcel" to Petten Street. The 2002 environmental documents do not refer to any

North or South divisions, but only to a unified Turning Point Park (that includes the "replacement parcel"). These documents state that Turning Point Park's trails were developed with L&WCF funds and the maps show these trails uniting all three areas within Turning Point Park. In order for the City of Rochester to qualify for Federal Highway Administration funds for trail way development they claimed that all of the trails funded would be within City of Rochester park land. Mr. George Stam, Rochester City Engineer, and Mr. Beauvais, Rochester DOT Office (585.272.3310), are able to provide you with the documentation and verification.

In conclusion, I do believe that I have provided sufficient and conclusive proof that the 19.5 acre parcel of park land within Turning Point Park is not a viable substitute for the NPS 6(f) land in Genesee Valley Park and that we can now, finally, lay to rest the case for using this parcel as a replacement.

I would very much appreciate it if you would respond, in writing, to this letter with information as to what the next steps will be in the process of evaluating the Environmental Assessment, my response document, Commissioner Fashun Ku's response to my document, this letter and accompanying documentation, as well as any information open to the public as to how this process will proceed and who, ultimately, will be responsible for deciding the fate of the land in Genesee Valley Park. I thank you in advance for your assistance in this matter.

Yours truly,



Enclosure

Attachments

cc: Ms. Jean Sokolowski
Mr. Fashun Ku

Plymouth Avenue at the Brooks Landing site at its intersection with Genesee Street. South of the Brooks Landing site, South Plymouth Avenue will terminate as a teardrop cul-de-sac wide enough to accommodate approximately 10 on-street parking spaces available for public use within the park. Along the river side of the conversion parcel is an area of 0.6 acres that will remain as 6(f) parkland within Genesee Valley Park and will be the location of the Brooks Landing Public Waterfront Promenade and Boat Landing, which will be open to the public 24 hours/day, seven days/week. Excursion-type vessels will be able to moor against a wharf that will extend 16 feet riverward, and extend 175 feet along the existing river wall (Figure ES-5).

Replacement Parcel

The proposed 19.5-acre replacement parcel was acquired by the City through foreclosure in 1999 and exists as vacant open space directly north of Turning Point Park (Figures ES-1 and ES-4). It consists of approximately 3.1 acres of steep vegetated slopes and 16.4 acres of wetland and open water along 3000 linear feet of river shoreline at the river's turning basin. The southern boundary of the replacement parcel currently serves as Turning Point Park's northern boundary. It is bounded on the west by an active CSX railroad and on the north by landlocked parkland known as Turning Point Park North, accessible only by boat. There is currently no legal access onto the replacement parcel and consequently it is neither serving nor managed as public parkland.

Purpose and Need. Despite a deep-rooted heritage and rich civic history, the area surrounding the proposed development site has experienced severe economic, social and aesthetic decline. The Brooks Landing Revitalization Project aims to revitalize the Brooks/Genesee neighborhood and reconnect the greater Rochester community with the Erie Canal. Based on more than twenty years of sustained public planning, the Brooks Landing concept includes a new extended-stay hotel and restaurant along the Genesee River with an adjacent new public waterfront, promenade and boat landing (Figure ES-5). It is part of a larger area designated as the Brooks Landing Urban Renewal District (BLURD) which also includes a new building with office and retail space and infill development in adjacent areas.

The Brooks Landing concept reinforces the goals of the City of Rochester's adopted comprehensive plan, entitled "Rochester 2010: The Renaissance Plan," the City's Urban Renewal Plan, and the City of Rochester's Draft Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (LWRP). Additionally, since this section of the Genesee River is part of the Erie Canal system, the Brooks Landing concept advances the state-wide goal, established through the creation of the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor in December 2000 (P.L. 106554, Title VIII, Sec. 801), to promote the use and awareness of the Erie Canal. The Brooks Landing Revitalization Project will also strengthen connections between the Genesee Street/Brooks Avenue neighborhood, Genesee Valley Park and the University of Rochester.

Impact topics were addressed for the project through New York State's Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) process. This included completion of the City of Rochester's Environmental Impact Assessment Long Form, which served as the basis for the City's Notice of Environmental Determination. Under SEQRA, the City determined that "the proposed action is one which will not have a significant effect on the environment". Impact topics with substantive

National Park Service, Interior

§ 59.3

or facility and consistent with the contractual agreement between NPS and the State. Responsibility for compliance and enforcement of these provisions rests with the State for both State and locally sponsored projects. The responsibilities cited herein are applicable to the area depicted or otherwise described on the 6(f)(3) boundary map and/or as described in other project documentation approved by the Department of the Interior. In many instances, this mutually agreed to area exceeds that actually receiving L&WCF assistance so as to assure the protection of a viable recreation entity. For leased sites assisted under L&WCF, compliance with post-completion requirements of the grant ceases following lease expiration unless the grant agreement calls for some other arrangement.

§ 59.2 Information collection.

The information collection requirements contained in § 59.3 have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget under 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.* and assigned clearance number 1024-0047. The information is being collected to determine whether to approve a project sponsor's request to convert an assisted site or facility to other than public outdoor recreation uses. The information will be used to assure that the requirements of section 6(f)(3) of the L&WCF Act would be met should the proposed conversion be implemented. Response is required in order to obtain the benefit of Department of the Interior approval.

§ 59.3 Conversion requirements.

(a) *Background and legal requirements.* Section 6(f)(3) of the L&WCF Act is the cornerstone of Federal compliance efforts to ensure that the Federal investments in L&WCF assistance are being maintained in public outdoor recreation use. This section of the Act assures that once an area has been funded with L&WCF assistance, it is continually maintained in public recreation use unless NPS approves substitution property of reasonably equivalent usefulness and location and of at least equal fair market value.

(b) *Prerequisites for conversion approval.* Requests from the project sponsor

for permission to convert L&WCF assisted properties in whole or in part to other than public outdoor recreation uses must be submitted by the State Liaison Officer to the appropriate NPS Regional Director in writing. NPS will consider conversion requests if the following prerequisites have been met:

(1) All practical alternatives to the proposed conversion have been evaluated.

(2) The fair market value of the property to be converted has been established and the property proposed for substitution is of at least equal fair market value as established by an approved appraisal (prepared in accordance with uniform Federal appraisal standards) excluding the value of structures or facilities that will not serve a recreation purpose.

(3) The property proposed for replacement is of reasonably equivalent usefulness and location as that being converted. Dependent upon the situation and at the discretion of the Regional Director, the replacement property need not provide identical recreation experiences or be located at the same site, provided it is in a reasonably equivalent location. Generally, the replacement property should be administered by the same political jurisdiction as the converted property. NPS will consider State requests to change the project sponsor when it is determined that a different political jurisdiction can better carry out the objectives of the original project agreement. Equivalent usefulness and location will be determined based on the following criteria:

(i) Property to be converted must be evaluated in order to determine what recreation needs are being fulfilled by the facilities which exist and the types of outdoor recreation resources and opportunities available. The property being proposed for substitution must then be evaluated in a similar manner to determine if it will meet recreation needs which are at least like in magnitude and impact to the user community as the converted site. This criterion is applicable in the consideration of all conversion requests with the exception of those where wetlands are proposed as replacement property. Wetland areas and interests therein

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36 CFR Ch. I (7-1-03 Edition)

which have been identified in the wetlands provisions of the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan shall be considered to be of reasonably equivalent usefulness with the property proposed for conversion regardless of the nature of the property proposed for conversion.

(ii) Replacement property need not necessarily be directly adjacent to or close by the converted site. This policy provides the administrative flexibility to determine location recognizing that the property should meet existing public outdoor recreation needs. While generally this will involve the selection of a site serving the same community(ies) or area as the converted site, there may be exceptions. For example, if property being converted is in an area undergoing major demographic change and the area has no existing or anticipated future need for outdoor recreation, then the project sponsor should seek to locate the substitute area in another location within the jurisdiction. Should a local project sponsor be unable to replace converted property, the State would be responsible, as the primary recipient of Federal assistance, for assuring compliance with these regulations and the substitution of replacement property.

(iii) The acquisition of one parcel of land may be used in satisfaction of several approved conversions.

(4) The property proposed for substitution meets the eligibility requirements for L&WCF assisted acquisition. The replacement property must constitute or be part of a viable recreation area. ~~Unless each of the following additional conditions is met, land currently in public ownership, including that which is owned by another public agency, may not be used as replacement land for land acquired as part of an L&WCF project:~~

(i) The land was not acquired by the sponsor or selling agency for recreation.

(ii) The land has not been dedicated or managed for recreational purposes while in public ownership.

(iii) No Federal assistance was provided in the original acquisition unless the assistance was provided under a program expressly authorized to match or supplement L&WCF assistance.

(iv) Where the project sponsor acquires the land from another public agency, the selling agency must be required by law to receive payment for the land so acquired.

In the case of development projects for which the State match was not derived from the cost of the purchase or value of a donation of the land to be converted, but from the value of the development itself, public land which has not been dedicated or managed for recreation/conservation use may be used as replacement land even if this land is transferred from one public agency to another without cost.

(5) In the case of assisted sites which are partially rather than wholly converted, the impact of the converted portion on the remainder shall be considered. If such a conversion is approved, the unconverted area must remain recreationally viable or be replaced as well.

(6) All necessary coordination with other Federal agencies has been satisfactorily accomplished including, for example, compliance with section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966.

(7) The guidelines for environmental evaluation have been satisfactorily completed and considered by NPS during its review of the proposed 6(f)(3) action. In cases where the proposed conversion arises from another Federal action, final review of the State's proposal shall not occur until the NPS Regional office is assured that all environmental review requirements related to that other action have been met.

(8) State intergovernmental clearinghouse review procedures have been adhered to if the proposed conversion and substitution constitute significant changes to the original Land and Water Conservation Fund project.

(9) The proposed conversion and substitution are in accord with the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) and/or equivalent recreation plans.

(c) *Amendments for conversion.* All conversions require amendments to the original project agreements. Therefore, amendment requests should be submitted concurrently with conversion requests or at such time as all details of the conversion have been worked out

The creation of Turning Point Park along the west bank of the lower Genesee River highlights one of Rochester's most valuable natural assets. The river gorge with its series of water falls and rugged terrain provides several miles of spectacular scenery located centrally within the northern half of the City.

The vivid contrast between the river gorge and the homes and factories which border much of its length is a feature of Rochester which few other cities can match. Although the potential for park development in the lower gorge has long been talked about, the dedication of Turning Point Park in 1977 represents the first major progress since the City acquired land for Seneca and Nightwood Parks some 90 years ago.



The section of the river which lies north of the lower falls (at Diking Park Bridge) played a leading role in the history of Rochester. In fact, the history of the lower gorge and the river outlet at Charlotte is longer than Rochester's in the sense that permanent settlement began there several years before Nathaniel Rochester's village site was developed south of the main falls. But the pre-history of the gorge is also interesting to anyone who is curious about how the river channel, the deep gorge, and the several falls were created.

Geologists explain that the Genesee once flowed through the broad Knappaquish Valley and the Bay. During the most recent ice age, perhaps 10,000 years ago, the river was forced to stick to course. It swiftly eroded the old sedimentary rock underlying Rochester, but since some of the rock layers are harder than others and erode more slowly, separate water beds were formed. The "Rochester Canyon," to use its scientific name, is a very recent phenomenon. Its existence helps explain the rugged quality of the Turning Point Park setting.



The southern end of Turning Point Park is located roughly halfway between the lower falls and the river outlet in Lake Ontario. Today, the mouth of the river passes between long piers which help maintain clear passage for water craft, but centuries ago when explorers and settlers first visited the area, all deposits formed broad grassy marshes which made navigation difficult.

Although French missionaries had probably visited the lower Genesee as early as the 1650's, it was not regarded as "a river unknown to geographers, full of falls and rapids," when Father Pierre de Charlevoix published his "Histoire de la Nouvelle France" in 1744. Sometimes during the French and Indian War, Captain Thomas Davies of the British Royal Regiment of Artillery travelled up the river and sketched the falls. His sketches, engraved and published in London in 1788, provide us with the earliest known views of the river gorge.

The river was then called Gasconchagon, its true Seneca Indian name, which meant "river-of-falls-upon-it." The Senecas knew the lower river as an excellent fishing and hunting ground, although they never built villages this far north.

First settlement of the area took place in 1792, when William Hincher located his family near the river mouth. Settlers from Connecticut founded King's Landing (also known as Harford's Landing or Fall Town) on the west bank of the gorge near the lower falls in 1797. For several years, King's Landing was a serious rival of Charlotte for commerce. Until roads were improved, it was more convenient to draw ships to the landing than to carry freight the additional five or six miles overland from Charlotte.

In the late 1800's King's Landing still served as a port. It was from the Glen House, located nearby, that excursion steamships left on very popular day trips through the lower river to points east and west.

A passenger on one of these excursions in the early 1800's, gazing at the river bank where Turning Point Park is now located, would have viewed scenery very different from that encountered by William Hincher in the 1790's. Arthur G. Yates, a Rochester coal dealer, began shipping coal through Charlotte shortly after the Civil War. In 1893, he took over the Buffalo, Rochester, & Pittsburgh Railway, which had connections with extensive coal fields. Yates extended its tracks in a high trestle built along the river's edge here, which was designed to dump coal directly into waiting cargo ships.

During the next 60 years, the Genesee was a major coal port, particularly in the first decades when the export of coal far overshadowed other activities. The B.R.&P. also operated car ferries, "floating freight yards", which carried passengers as well. (The B.R.&P. was absorbed by the B&O in the 1890's.) The ferry service to Canada, inaugurated with great fanfare in 1807 as a cooperative venture with the Canadian railroad, was discontinued in 1850. A proposal in 1972 to redevelop the site as an old land farm generated widespread opposition and led to plans for preservation of this section of the river for an open space park.

Although it has been possible to include only a portion of the story of Turning Point Park in this brochure, a first-hand visit to Turning Point Park on the lower Genesee provides the best opportunity to gain a sense of both geologic time and the much briefer history of our city. It is an opportunity which now will be available to future generations.



Issued 2002



2014

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REFERENCES

Daily Inhabited Cemetery
St. Hope Cemetery
 The cemetery is located on the south side of the town, near the river.
 The ground is owned by the town.

Riverside Cemetery
 The cemetery is located on the north side of the town, near the river.
 The ground is owned by the town.

HISTORIC DISTRICTS - SITES

Struggle Against Cassin's 10

1. The first step in the struggle against Cassin's is to determine the extent of the problem. This can be done by conducting a survey of the area. 10

Wesley's Kites, Hype Talk 10

1. Wesley's Kites, Hype Talk is a book by Wesley's Kites, Hype Talk. 10

Corn Hill 10

1. Corn Hill is a book by Corn Hill. 10

Easy As Pie 10

1. Easy As Pie is a book by Easy As Pie. 10

Eric Canal Aqueduct 10

1. Eric Canal Aqueduct is a book by Eric Canal Aqueduct. 10

Grove - Cable 10

1. Grove - Cable is a book by Grove - Cable. 10

Mr. Hype 10

1. Mr. Hype is a book by Mr. Hype. 10

Maplewood 10

1. Maplewood is a book by Maplewood. 10

Old Rochester 10

1. Old Rochester is a book by Old Rochester. 10

John B. Anthony 10

1. John B. Anthony is a book by John B. Anthony. 10

POINTS OF INTEREST

[illegible]

ROCHESTER 2010
THE RENAISSANCE
City of Rochester, New York
William A. Johnson Jr., Mayor

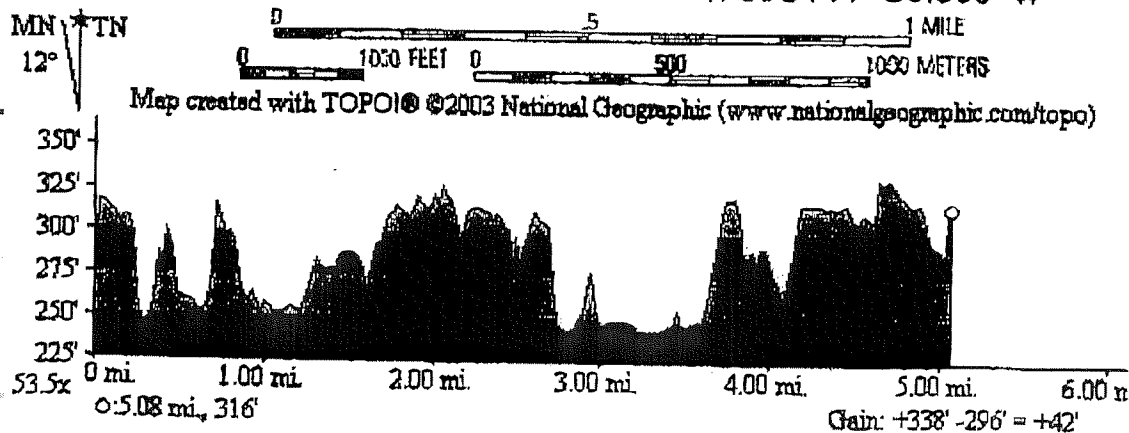
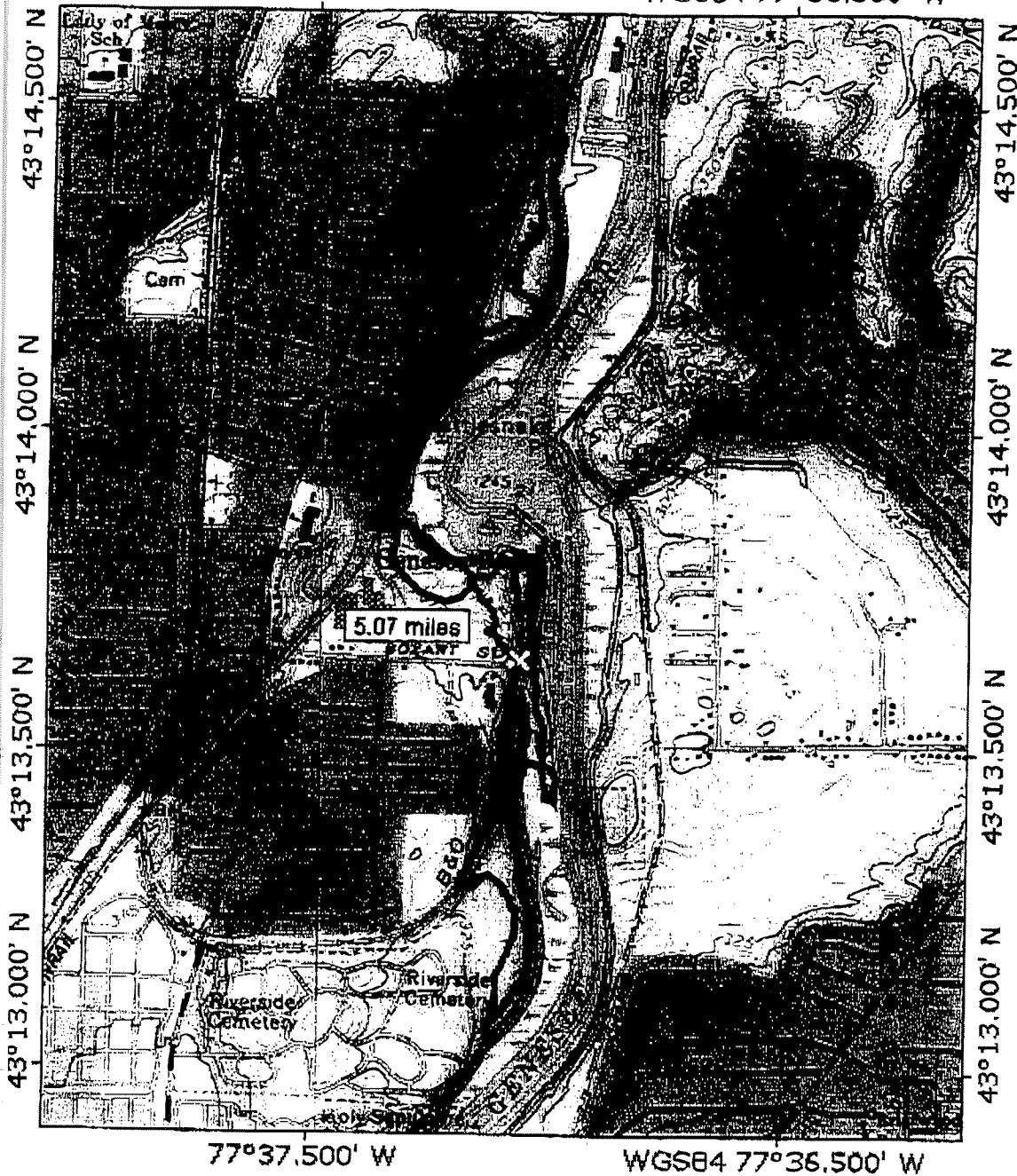


www.cit.ford.us/brhs/docs/Chesee River Trailwa Back.pdf

Turning Point Park 1/9/2005

77°37.500' W

WGS84 77°36.500' W



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City of Rochester, NY
the #1 business city



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Services by Department

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Water Activities

Swimming Boating Fishing

Turning Point Park

260 Boxart St 14612

[Click here for a map!](#)

NET Sector A: Charlotte & Maplewood
 NBN Sector: Charlotte

In the Charlotte neighborhood nearby to Lake Ontario, Turning Point Park covers 275 wooded acres along the banks of the Genesee River. Hiking and biking trails will help you discover the park's distinct areas from the wooded oak forest called "Bullock's Woods" to the cattail lined shores of the river. Enjoy the nature watching and beautiful river views from its trails.

Services Available

Scenic Area , Hiking Trail , Boat Docking / Launching , Fishing .

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Turning Point Falls



Location In Turning Point Park, Rochester, Monroe County, NY. This small park is at the end of Boxart Street which is off of Lake Avenue in the northern part of Rochester. See [Map](#)

Access County park with maintained biking and walking trails leading to the vicinity of the falls.

Driving time 9 miles, 20 minutes.

Hiking It is a short walk to either of these falls, although a visit both will be close to 2 miles. Hike on a paved bike path to visit Turning Point South, and on paved bike path or dirt trail to visit Turning Point North. It is an ~~easy~~ ^{easy} to visit the top of these falls. The scramble down to the base either is extremely steep and can be muddy and slippery.

Details There are two waterfalls here. To visit Turning Point South, follow the bike path south from the parking lot for about 250 yards. Look for a path to the left down through the bushes to a dirt path which is parallel to the bike path and about 20 feet lower. You can see the waterfall from this dirt path.

To visit Turning Point North, follow a utility road north from the parking lot. Where the river widens to form the Turning Point Basin, follow a trail to the left and follow the rim of the cliff above the river until you get to the waterfall, about 1/4 mile.

Both waterfalls are about 30 feet high and both, unfortunately, are littered with trash.

Thanks to "Scatman" for the following:

I am an outdoor person who grew up in the Boxart Street area as a kid. Now I spend my time in the High Peaks area, but I go down to Turning Point on the weekends to walk, exercise the dog, and some occasional summertime nightfishing for 'cats'. For as long as I remember, and from what the previous generations told us, the 'North' falls were always called "Brown Falls", for the brown bedrock, and the southern falls were obviously "Red Falls" for the red clay bedrock they tumble over. I just met a woman who grew up there as a kid back in the 40's and she knew them both as Brown and Red Falls.

And to Richard Waterhouse for:

The north falls is Red Falls, the south is Brown Falls.

And to "anonymous" for:

... regarding Turning Point Park I think Scott M is correct. The notes contradict each other. I've heard the south falls referred to as Red Rock Falls or Bullock's Falls. I don't know the name of the north falls.



Click the images for enlarged views

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Send feedback with questions or comments about this web site.

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Last modified: 01/06/2005

16 August 2005

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Mr. R. Eashum Ku, Commissioner
Economic Development Department
City Hall, Room 005A
30 Church St.
Rochester, NY 14614-1290

RE: Genesee Valley Park, Rochester, New York - Brooks Landing

Dear Commissioner Ku,

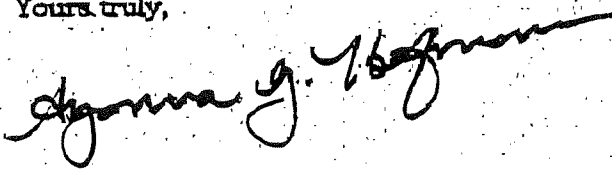
Thank you for your 5 August 2005 letter stating that the reviews of the Brooks Landing Environmental Assessment (EA) and the public comments in response to the EA are still in progress at the National Park Service (NPS) and New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (NYSOPRHP) levels.

It is my understanding that the land within Turning Point Park, that the City of Rochester has chosen for the 'replacement' of NPS 6(f) protected park land within Genesee Valley Park West, is not a legitimate replacement for said park land as this 19.5 acre parcel is in fact, and has been for years, park land within the City of Rochester's parks system. Because it is against Federal regulations to exchange park land for park land, as this will cause a net loss of park land, the Turning Point Park parcel can not be legally exchanged for any National Park Service 6(f) park land.

Furthermore, it is also my understanding that while these and other factors are being analyzed by the NPS and the NYSOPRHP during this review process, the NPS-Genesee Valley Park West roadway, South Plymouth Avenue, may not be obstructed/closed, preventing vehicular traffic access to Genesee Valley Park and that this road may not be closed until such time as the NPS 6(f) protected park land has been 'alienated/converted' - a 'final' step that can not take place without National Park Service approval, which can not happen until the preceding review processes and evaluations have been completed and approved, as well as the completion and approval of any additionally required NPS, National Environmental Protection Act (1969) (NEPA), and NEPA Environmental Justice procedures/reviews/approvals/etc.

In the meantime, I do appreciate your notifications to the City of Rochester's Dept. of Engineering Services/Street Design Division and FRA Engineering, P.C. that further attempts to close off So. Plymouth Avenue must be halted.

Yours truly,



cc: Ms. Jean Sokolowski, NPS NE Region
Mr. Tom Lyons, NYSOPRHP
Mr. Paul Way, City of Rochester, Street Design Division
Mr. Mike Melino, FRA Engineering, P.C.

Attachments